

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 AMMAN 05396 161217Z

42

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 W  
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R 161149Z SEP 74  
FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2441  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
USINT ALGIERS  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO

S E C R E T AMMAN 5396

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, JO, SA  
SUBJ: HUSSEIN-FAISAL MEETING

REF: A. JIDDA 5338 (NOTAL)  
B. AMMAN 5353 (NOTAL)

1. PRIME MINISTER RIFAI GAVE ME SHORT RUNDOWN ON TALKS IN JORDAN SEPTEMBER 15 BETWEEN FAISAL AND HUSSEIN. JORDANIANS, HE SAID, APPROACHED TALKS IN MANNER SUGGESTED REFTEL (A), MAKING NO DEMANDS AND SEEKING FAISAL'S ADVICE.
2. RIFAI SAID KING HUSSEIN EXPLAINED SITUATION THE WAY HE SAW IT AFTER HIS TRIP TO WASHINGTON. FAISAL, ACCORDING TO RIFAI, SAID JORDANIANS HAD TAKEN CORRECT POSITION, I.E., THEY WERE PREPARED TO ACCEPT AS CONTROLLING VIEWS OF THE OTHER ARABS. WHEN JORDANIANS ASKED FAISAL WHAT HIS OWN VIEWS WERE, HE SAID HE WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT OTHER ARABS, BUT DECLINED FURTHER TO COMMIT HIMSELF.
3. PRINCE SULTAN, ACCORDING TO RIFAI, SUGGESTED THAT JORDAN WAS ALSO IN STRONG POSITION TO GO TO ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE, IN THAT EGYPT, SYRIA, SAUDI ARABIA AND MOST OF GULF STATES HAD GIVEN JORDAN A CERTAIN AMOUNT OF BACKING. KEY HOLD-OUT FOR JORDAN WAS BOUMEDIENE. SULTAN URGED JORDAN

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TO APPROACH BOUMEDIENE FOR A FRANK CONVERSATION--"EITHER YOU

WILL CONVINCE US OR WE WILL CONVINCE YOU"--THROUGH ASAD. JORDANIANS DO NOT BELIEVE THEY CAN PERSUADE ASAD TO GIVE THEM SUPPORT ON THIS ISSUE, BUT ARE INCLINED TO SEND SOMEONE TO TALK WITH ALGERIANS DIRECTLY. IN LAST ANALYSIS THEY ARE ATTACHED TO IDEA THAT THEY HAVE LITTLE TO LOSE, AND POSSIBLY SOMETHING TO GAIN IN A DIRECT TALK WITH ALGERIANS IF ALGERIANS AGREE TO RECEIVE THEM.

4. ON ATMOSPHERICS, IN ADDITION TO ESCHEWING REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE AND DEMANDS FOR SUPPORT, WE SEE FROM TV HERE THAT KING WORE KAFFIA. RIFAI SAID HE THOUGHT THEIR GENERAL Demeanor HAD HELPED; MILITARY UNIFORM WOULD HAVE GIVEN TOO MUCH OF A "WE'RE GOING BACK TO WAR" IMPRESSION TO THE MEETING. PARTY ALSO STOPPED AT MEDINA ON WAY HOME TO PRAY AT TOMB OF PROPHET.

5. RIFAI ADDED AS AFTERTHOUGHT POINT WHICH I AM SURE HE FOUND IMPOSSIBLE TO HOLD BACK. HE SAID SAUDIS HAD REPORTED THAT EGYPTIANS TOLD THEM THAT JORDAN WAS NOW PREPARED TO GIVE UP ON GETTING JORDAN VALLEY FLOOR BACK AND HAD AGREED TO A DISENGAGEMENT WHICH LEFT ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN PLACE. KING, WHO CERTAINLY HAS NOT GIVEN WAY ON THIS POINT, STRONGLY REBUTTED THIS STATEMENT AND MADE CLEAR TO FAISAL THAT HE HAD NOT AGREED ON THIS POINT AT ALL. RIFAI COMPLAINED THIS WAS ALL SADAT'S IDEA AT ALEXANDRIA MEETING.  
PICKERING

SECRET

NNN

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